related materials. We recognize the progress in combating the financing of proliferation activities, and the role of the Financial Action Task Force (FATE).

15. We will continue to uphold the importance of the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (HCoC), by promoting its universalization and full implementation. In this respect, we are encouraged by the positive developments announced at the 2009 HCoC annual meeting, and are confident that all subscribing States will soon fully implement their commitments. We call upon all States that have not subscribed to the Code to do so without delay.

16. The Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction launched in 2002 at Kananaskis has become a successful large-scale initiative for the enhancement of international security. In parallel with the implementation of ongoing priority projects in Russia and Ukraine, to which we fully reconfirm our commitments, we are discussing the options for the Partnership's further expansion by engaging potential new participants, including CIS countries, committed to the Kananaskis Principles and Guidelines.

The G8 is also ready to include new fields of cooperation in areas where the risks of terrorism and proliferation are greatest. To prevent global WMD knowledge proliferation, particularly through collaboration with scientists, we welcome the Recommendations for a coordinated approach in this field.

17. Regarding nuclear safety, we acknowledge the progress made since the last Summit meeting in ongoing projects at the Chernobyl site and, while noting that additional financial resources will be needed for their completion, we reassert our commitment to undertake joint efforts with Ukraine to convert the site into a stable and environmentally safe condition.

Polymetallic Nodules Projects

*400. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) the assessment made so far about the Polymetallic Nodules Projects;

(b) the amount spent on the project, so far;

(c) whether the achievements have been commensurate with the expenditure incurred on the project; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The assessment made so far about the Polymetallic Nodules Project indicates an estimate of 380 Million Metric Tones (MMT) of total polymetallic nodules in the 75000 square kilometer of Area retained by India in the Central Indian Ocean Basin. The important metal values

are estimated for Manganese – 92.59 MMT, Nickel – 4.70 MMT, Copper – 4.29 MMT, and Cobalt – 0.55 MMT. A first generation minesite has been identified on the basis of detailed survey. The Environmental Impact Assessment Study pertaining to the assessment of benthic impact and restoration of marine environment has also been completed. A pilot scale semi-continuous metallurgical plant was set up and the process package for extraction of metal values has been validated. The results indicated that the process efficiencies exceeded design basis. A prototype mining system was designed, developed and tested at a water depth of 451 meters as a part of stagewise development of mining system for exploitation of nodules from seabed.

(b) The amount spent on various activities (Survey and Exploration, Environment Impact Assessment Study, Technology Development-Extractive Metallurgy and Technology Development- Mining) of the project since its inception in 1982-83, is about Rs. 262.486 crores.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Board of Radiation and Isotope Technology

2881. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the commercial application of radio isotopes is a success;

(b) if so, the profit derived from Board of Radiation and Isotope Technology; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) Board of Radiation and Isotope Technology (BRIT) is engaged in commercial application of Radiation and Radioisotope Technology in the field of health care, agriculture, industry and research. Activities of BRIT are based on research reactors and other facilities of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) and have led to large scale societal benefits and is clearly a success story. Presently, cash based government accounting system is in operation. BRIT is cash surplus in its operations.

Private practice scheme in Tata Memorial Centre

2882. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any private practice scheme has been implemented in Tata Memorial Centre;

(b) if so, whether Government has given prior sanction to this scheme; and

(c) how much money has been given to doctors under this scheme in the last year?